

Parent Application serial number 09/687,052

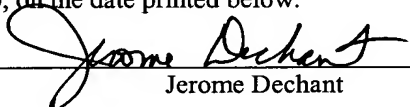
**IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Wakeley et al.
SERIAL NO.: Continuation of Parent Application serial number 09/687,052
FILING DATE: Parent Application filed on October 12, 2000
TITLE: Hot Swapping
EXAMINER: Unknown
ART UNIT: Unknown
ATTY. DKT. NO: PDNO 10002635-2

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, V.A. 22313-1450, on the date printed below:

Date: 9-16-03


Jerome Dechant

REMARKS

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, V.A. 22313-1450

Sir:

Before examining the above-identified Continuation Application, please consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

Prosecution History of The Parent Application

The Parent Application of the above-identified Continuation Application was in prosecution until the Final Office Action mailed August 13, 2003. In that Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-15 and allowed claims 16-19.

In an Examiner Interview on August 27, 2003, the Examiner issued an Examiner's Amendment in which claims 1-15 were canceled so that the Parent Application included only allowed claims 16-19 and thus was in condition for allowance.

On September 9, 2003, the Examiner mailed the Notice of Allowance and Fees(s) Due for the Parent Application.

In response to the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due, Applicants are paying the Issue Fee for the Parent Application to issue. Applicants are also filing the above-identified Continuation Application and submitting this Remarks for the Continuation Application.

The Continuation Application

Because of the recognized typographical errors in both the Specification and of figure 3 of the Parent Application, Applicants, instead of copying the Parent Application, are submitting a new Specification including the drawings. In effect, the Specification of the Continuation Application is the same as that of the Parent Application, except for the corrected typographical errors. Further, the Continuation Application also includes claims 1-25.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-25 of the Continuation Application present subject matter that is patentable over the prior art of record of the Parent Application, i.e., US patent number 6,070,207 to *Bell*, US patent number 6,324,608 to *Papa et al* and US patent number 6,574,695 to Mott et al. In view of the following remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner allow these claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 of the Continuation Application is patentably distinguished from *Bell*, *Papa*, and *Mott*, alone or in combination for at least the reason that claim 1 includes a feature in which “if recognizing that the device *has been removed* from the bridge, then the bridge transitioning into a cleanup state, then the removed state ” (emphasis added). This feature of claim 1 is distinguished from the “non-operational” mode of *Bell* because this mode of *Bell* occurs *before* *Bell*’s bus system is unplugged from the computer system. Further, while in the cleanup state, the bridge and the computer system issue signals that are not disclosed, suggested, or made obvious by *Bell*, *Papa*, and *Mott*, alone or in combination.

Claims 2-12, depending from claim 1, are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 2-12 are also patentable for their additional features, such as the bridge uses various protocols for the device to communicate with the computer system, including converting commands of these protocols; the bridge, while in the cleanup state, provides further signals to the computer system; using a buffer between the bridge and the device, etc.

Claims 13-25 include various patentable features recited in claims 1-12 and are therefore patentable for at least those features.


SUMMARY

In conclusion, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-25 in the Continuation Application clearly present subject matter that is patentable over the prior art of record, and therefore request that the Examiner pass the application to issue. If the Examiner has questions regarding this case, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Wakeley et al.

Date: 9/16/03

By: 

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